

# Offwell C of E Primary School

Our Core Values: Honesty, Loyalty, Caring, Sharing and Forgiveness.



Dear Friends and Families of Offwell,

## Highlights of the Week:

**Ash:** Our Easter egg hunt!

**Willow:** Our first spring walk to Offwell Woods even though it was a little soggy!

**Beech:** Creating our own book based on the book 'A River'.

**Oak:** Our excellent orienteering sessions on the field in PE.

I do hope we are able to enjoy some glorious weather over the next few weeks – even a few days would be wonderful!



We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful part of the country. People come from all over the world to share in what we could see almost every day. However, it is clear that shining image can sometimes be

spoiled by the tons of plastic waste which wash up every day on our beaches, affecting not only the view, but also the wildlife.

## Be a Part of the solution, not part of the pollution!

This is the message from Surfers Against Sewage. A report reveals the Plastic Free Communities movement is inspiring millions to take action and 'significantly' reducing single use plastic

<https://plasticfree.org.uk/plastic-free-inspiration/>



Our school is signed up to be a leader of our local community action against pollution. I would like you – our children – to encourage your adults to take a bag and gloves on each beach walk, so that when you leave, there will be at least one bag of plastic waste in a recycling bin, rather than on the shore. Please take a photo and share it with us after Easter, so I can share it in our next newsletter.

## Help for Parents, to support your child's Mental Health

Growing minds can have lots of questions, particularly in a world with 24-hour news coverage of all the worst things that are happening. On top of this, there are the everyday challenges.

'Primary school brings with it a whole new set of challenges... Luckily there is a lot of support available for families including websites, books, videos, helplines and on-line chat options, so have a look at what's on offer'

Topics cover everything from Anxiety, Behaviour, Coping with Loss, to Self Esteem and Sleep. <https://happymaps.co.uk/age-group/primaryschool/>

## Primary School - HappyMaps

Primary school brings with it a whole new set of challenges – coping with school toilets, new friends, new routines and separation anxiety to name a few. If your child is already some way through primary school there may be other stresses with friendship problems, bullying or perhaps anxiety about moving up to secondary school.



Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022

## House Points

**Attenborough: 83 Anning: 46**

Well done Attenborough!

This means that Attenborough is the termly winner with 399 points and Anning 326.

Attenborough will be rewarded with a non-uniform day on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April.



## PTFA Easter Hunt

A reminder of the PTFA Easter Hunt around the

village over the Easter break. All children are being sent home with instructions and a quiz sheet and an electronic copy is also attached.

## Dinner Menu After Easter

The school dinner menu has changed slightly for after Easter. Please advise [admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@offwell-primary.devon.sch.uk)



of any changes to existing orders. We return to Week 1 which is unchanged.

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Next term, we revisit Relationships and Health Education, which teaches children about their bodies, how to take care of them and how they change as they grow. Crucially, at the same time, we teach children about their emotions, and how to recognise and build strong relationships for life. We will tell you more about this after Easter, but as part of this, the NSPCC has some resources for parents that help broach tricky topics in an accessible way:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/underwear-rule-parents-learning-disabilities-english.pdf>

**Covid guidance**, as set out on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April, has changed. You may also have noticed that, on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April, the list of symptoms has been updated to nine, new symptoms. See NHS [COVID-19 symptoms in adults](#) and [symptoms in children](#) .

Adults and children who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19, should follow the [UKHSA guidance](#). The NHS and UKHSA (UK Health Security Agency) advise:

“...people with symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and who **have a high temperature or do not feel well, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with others**. Those who are asked – or choose to test – and get a **positive COVID-19 result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days** following the day of their positive result (this period is **3 days for children**).” This rises to 10 days, where you might come into close contact with anyone you know who is at risk of becoming seriously unwell with Covid-19 or any respiratory conditions, e.g: those with reduced immunity. **As you cannot always know if you are contagious or not, wearing a mask in enclosed spaces is a sensible precaution.**

“Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.”

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19>

Dame Jenny Harries, Chief Executive of UKHSA, said:

“The pandemic is not over and how the virus will develop over time remains uncertain. COVID still poses a real risk to many of us, particularly with high case rates and hospitalisations. That is why it is sensible to wear a mask in crowded, enclosed spaces, keep indoor spaces ventilated and stay away from others if you have any symptoms of a respiratory illness.... Vaccination remains the best way to protect us all from severe disease and hospitalisation.”

## **Enough about Covid – what about other infections?**

**Chickenpox and Scarlet Fever** are two routine childhood infections which are currently seeing some resurgence; both are considered to be common, mild and of low public health risk, but there can be complications where both diseases are present.

Children with Chicken Pox should be kept away from school for at least five days from onset of rash AND until all lesions have crusted over. It is important to avoid and notify those with whom you may have had contact, who have lower immunity or who are pregnant.

Scarlet fever may need appropriate medical attention, so we advise parents to take children to the GP, who may prescribe further treatment.

Good infection prevention and control - maintaining an ongoing emphasis on cleaning, hand and respiratory hygiene, and ensuring adults and children who are unwell remain away from the setting - will help reduce transmission of most infections within schools.

**As for Covid, vaccination is the safest way to protect each other from the risks of childhood infection.**

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## Termly Award Winners:

### Housepoints:

Oak – Ava  
Beech - Matilda  
Willow – Poppy  
Ash – Freddie

### Caring Cup:

Nominations for each class:

Oak – Isabella  
Beech – Elizabeth R  
Willow – Sofia  
Ash – Iola

The overall winner was chosen as Elizabeth – well done to him for being so caring!

Congratulations to all our housepoint winners and the other nominees for the Caring Cup.

### WASP, Early Morning Club & KS2 School Lunches

Attendance at After School Club and Early Morning Club has been input into Parentpay if you pay in this way. If your child has been attending this half term, please visit to make payment. Likewise, all lunches taken have been entered and now require payment.

### Easter Break

We break today and children return on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April. I hope you have an enjoyable and restful break.

Lorna Legg, Be healthy in body and strong in spirit and may all go well with you...

## Scomis Online Safety Information

Please see the link for this very useful flyer.

<https://s6.newzapp.co.uk/t/click/1537995462/29303629/15732986>

## Holiday Activities

Please see attached for ideas for holiday activities.